

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 2-5, with the following amended paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional ~~Applications No.~~ Application Nos. 60/241,450, filed October 17, 2000 and 60/275,206 filed March 12, 2001, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. utility applications Application Nos. 09/903,441, filed July 10, 2001, now US Patent ~~[[No]] No.~~ 7,080,161, and 09/903,423, filed July 10, 2001, ~~still pending, which are all hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety now US Patent No. 7,363,367.~~ These applications are herein incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 3-23, with the following amended paragraph:

In some embodiments of the invention, one or more routing intelligence units are stationed at the premises of a multi-homed organization, each of which controls one or more edge routers. These devices inject BGP updates to the Edge Routers they control, based on performance data from measurements obtained locally, or from a Routing Intelligence Exchange- Routing Intelligence Exchanges are further described in U.S. Applications 60/241,450 filed October 17, 2000, 60/275,206 filed March 12, 2001, 09/903,441 filed July 10, 2001, now US Patent ~~[[No]] No.~~ 7,080,161, and 09/903,423 filed July 10, 2001, ~~still pending now US Patent No. 7,363,367,~~ which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. Different configurations of these routing intelligence units and edge routers are illustrated in Figures 1 through 4. In some embodiments illustrated in Figure 1, one edge router 102 with multiple ISPs 104 and 106 is controlled by a single device 100. Figure 2 illustrates embodiments in which the routing intelligence unit 200 controls multiple edge routers 202 and 204, each of which in turn links to multiple ISPs 206, 208, 210, and 212; Figure 2 also illustrates embodiments in which routers 203 205 controlled by the routing intelligence unit 200 are not coupled to SPALs. In Figure 3, a single routing intelligence unit 300 controls multiple edge routers 302 and 304, each of which is linked to exactly one ISP 306 and 308. In additional embodiments illustrated in Figure 4, different routing intelligence units 400 and 402, each connected to a set of local edge routers 404, 406, 408, and 410, may coordinate their decisions. In some embodiments of the invention, the routing intelligence units comprise processes running within one or more

processors housed in the edge routers. Other configurations of routing intelligence units and edge routers will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 1-13, with the following amended paragraph:

A diagram showing the high-level architecture of Routing Intelligence Unit, and focused on its BGP settings is shown in Figure 5. In the embodiments illustrated in Figure 5, three BGP peering types may exist between a given Routing Intelligence Unit 500 and the external world: one to control the local edge router or routers 502 that this particular Routing Intelligence Unit 500 is optimizing, one to a Routing Infrastructure Exchange (RIX) 504, and one to every other Routing Intelligence Unit device with which it coordinates 506, as further described in U.S. applications 60/241,450 filed October 17, 2000, 60/275,206 filed March 12, 2001, 09/903,441 filed July 10, 2001, now US Patent ~~[[No]]~~ No. 7,080,161, and 09/903,423 filed July 10, 2001, ~~still pending~~ now US Patent No. 7,363,367, which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. In the diagram shown in Figure 5, the three external peering types are shown as the arrows at far left (to the Edge Routers 502 and to RIX 504) and far right 506. In order for BGP updates to be propagated to the appropriate devices, some devices are configured to be route reflectors, and others as route reflector clients. In some embodiments of the invention, the Decision Maker is a reflector client on all its iBGP peering types.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 9-16, with the following amended paragraph:

In some embodiments of the invention, such changes are checked for in 2 passes. The first pass looks for group level changes, wherein a group comprises an arbitrary collection of prefixes. Groups are also described in U.S. Applications 60/241,450 filed October 17, 2000, 60/275,206 filed March 12, 2001, 09/903,441 filed July 10, 2001, now US Patent ~~[[No]]~~ No. 7,080,161, and 09/903,423 filed July 10, 2001, ~~still pending~~ now US Patent No. 7,363,367, which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. In case a significant change in performance for a group is noticed, the group is unpacked into its individual prefixes; the

corresponding prefixes are checked and considered for insertion in the priority queue. The second pass captures prefixes for which there are no group-level performance changes.